103rd Civil Support Team (WMD)
Alaska National Guard
Fact Sheet

MISSION: CST teams are designed to provide Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Hi-Yield Explosive assessment (CBNRE), advice to the Incident Commander, and facilitate military support to Local First Responders, in situations involving Weapons of Mass Destruction.

LOCATION: Teams are based in each of the 10 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regions. The 103d CST WMD is located at Fort Richardson, Alaska.

PERSONNEL: Each CST team is Army and/or Air National Guard, 22 full time, highly qualified, and technically proficient personnel. The Team is composed of 6 sections; Command and Control, Operations, Reconnaissance, Logistics/Administration, Communications, and Medical. There are over 14 highly skilled specialties within the team giving the local incident commander tremendous assets to draw upon when needed.

EQUIPMENT: Each CST Team has the most current state of the art technology to assist in the detection and identification of the suspected contamination. Much of the equipment is non-military off the shelf, although the team has a full compliment of the latest military technology to assist the local incident commander.

The 103rd CST (WMD) is primarily a consequence management organization that works with the local Incident Commander. The team assists the Incident Commander in assessing the incident site and making recommendations for further mitigating the loss of life or property.

103rd CST WMD Medical Section
Fact Sheet

Who we are **Phone**

1. Nuclear Medical Science Officer (NMSO)

2. Physician Assistance (PA)

3. Medical NCO (MNCO)

4. Medical Operations Officer (MED OPS)

What we can do?

1. Emergent care of Team members only
2. Medical surveillance (Occupational medicine) of team members
3. Advance trauma life support of team members
4. Treatment of exposure to radiation, chemicals and biological
5. Treatment of conventional injuries, i.e., gunshot wounds, etc.
6. Treatment of critical incident stress or psychological effects of WMD events.
7. Assess agent samples collected by the survey team.
8. Advise about agent treatment, medical mitigation and follow on resources.

What is our training?

1. Medical section: NFPA 473, Level 2
2. 18 EMT-B's
3. 1 Licensed Physician Assistant
4. 1 Mobile Intensive care Paramedic

What equipment we have?

1. 1 Medical Equipment Set, Patient treatment
2. 1 Medical Equipment Set, Patient DECON
3. Advance life support equipment and pharmaceuticals.
4. Analytical lab equipment for agent assessment

What are our constraints?

1. No patient transportation assets
2. No patient holding capabilities

CIVIL SUPPORT Team (WMD)
General Fact Sheet

- ***What is the Civil Support Team?***

The *Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction)*, also known as *CST*, is a federally funded State National Guard unit established under Presidential Decision Directive 39. The full-time unit is stationed in state. There are 10 fulltime teams that entered service in 2000, and 17 additional CSTs that were activated in late 2001. Originally designated "*RAID*" for *Rapid Assessment and Initial Detection*, the teams was renamed to emphasize their supporting role to civil authorities.

- ***What is the mission of a CST?***

The CST organization was designed to augment local and regional terrorism response capabilities in events known or suspected to involve Weapons of Mass Destruction. WMD events are incidents involving hostile use of chemicals (such as nerve or blister agent), biological (for example, anthrax), or radiological agents. The team can be enroute within four hours to support civil authorities in the event or suspicion of a WMD attack. Specifically, the CST deploys to an area of operations to:

Assess a suspected nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological (NBC/R) event in support of a local Incident Commander.

Advise civilian responders regarding appropriate response actions, and;

Facilitate requests for assistance to expedite arrival of additional state and federal assets to help save lives, prevent human suffering, and mitigate great property damage.

- ***What capability does a CST bring to Emergency Responders?***

The CST will never replace the First Responder, but will augment local resources with special capability as the first *military* responder. The team integrates with the Incident Command System (ICS) in support of the local Incident Commander, providing a crucial capability between the initial local response and that of follow-on federal assets. Municipal Fire, HazMat, Police, and EMS agencies have a proven capability to deal with most emergencies. Larger incidents use mutual aid plans and the ICS to cope with the emergency. However, a WMD attack would present unique obstacles--such as identification of a weaponized agent or spread of contamination--that could quickly overwhelm existing local and state resources. **The CST provides rapid confirmatory analysis of chemical or radiological hazards, and presumptive identification of biological agents at a WMD Incident.**

The team uses special military and commercial detection and communications equipment and is trained for WMD response. Advice on event mitigation, medical treatment, follow-on resources, and other response concerns are provided to the Incident Commander.

- ***How does a CST operate at a WMD event?***

Upon arrival at a WMD Incident, the CST Commander receives support objectives from the Incident Commander. Using specialized equipment and wearing protective gear, the CST can verify the perimeter of the exclusion zone, then send entry teams into the contaminated area or "hot zone" to conduct reconnaissance, survey, detection and sampling missions.

Survey results are assessed, and computer hazard modeling projects downwind contamination and how large an area to evacuate. A Mobile Laboratory provides on-site analysis of NBC/R agents, and prepares samples for further analysis by state and federal labs or law enforcement agencies. A Communications Suite integrates CST radios with local responders, and facilitates wide-bandwidth data "reachback". Communications reachback relays expert assessment from expert state and federal agencies—such as Center for Disease Control—to the scene.

- ***What equipment does a CST use?*** A wide range of low and high-tech devices are used, including the latest military hardware and commercial equipment:

- **Personal Protective Equipment**
  - Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (1-hr air supply)
  - Rebreather (2-hr air supply)
  - Level A Suit, totally encapsulated; Level B Suit; Military MOPP Gear with M-40 Mask
  - Tactical Decontamination Gear for self-decon

- **Reconnaissance, Detection, Sampling Gear**
  - Digital Still Camera; Video Camera
  - Photo-Ionization Detector (PID) – detection of combustible and volatile gasses
  - Improved Chemical Agent Monitor (ICAM) - point-detection of Nerve and Blister Agents
  - M-22 Chemical Agent Detector (ACADA)- area-detection of Nerve and Blister Agents
  - M-8 Paper; M-9 Paper - detection of liquid Nerve and Blister Agents
  - M-256 Kit – "wet chemistry" detection of Nerve, Blister, Blood Agents
  - Portable Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer– identification of over 150,000 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and most weaponized Chemical Agent vapors
  - AN/UDR-13; AN/VDR-2, AN/UDR-77 Radiac Sets – detection and measurement of Alpha, Beta, Gamma, and X-Ray radiation sources
  - Handheld Immunoassay tickets – presumptive detection of eight Biological Agents
  - DoD Sampling Kit – downrange sample collection
  - Colorimetric Tubes – detection of VOCs

- **Computer Modeling and Response Database Systems**
  - Joint Assessment of Catastrophic Events (JACE) – web-based hazard plume modeling
  - Hazard Prediction and Assessment Capability (HPAC) – simulate effects of customized NBC/R weapons
  - Consequence Assessment Tool Set – manages array of automated modeling tools

- **Unified Command Suite (UCS) – communications van**
  - 15 kW power supply and environmental control unit
  - KU-Band SATCOM – wide-bandwidth for data and voice reachback; Secure capable
  - INMARSAT-B – portable data and voice SATCOM
  - Motorola VHF/UHF AM/FM Transceiver – intra-team communications and Responder communications.
    -- (frequencies removed by Conflict 21 web team)
  - HF SSB – team to military combs
  - Military VHF/UHF/UHF SATCOM Radios (frequencies removed by Conflict 21 web team)
  - Multilane Scanner
  - Team Radios – (frequencies removed by Conflict 21 web team)
  - Cellular Telephone, and Local Area Network for Laptop Computers

- **Analytical Laboratory System**
  - 6 kW power supply and bench workspace

- Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer with Headspace Sampler – identification of over 150,000 VOCs and most weaponized Chemical Agents, from solid, liquid, or vapor samples
- Handheld Immunoassay Tickets – presumptive detection of select Biological Agents
- Gamma Spectrometer – radioisotope Identification

❑ ***What special skills does CST offer?***

The CST combines the skills of six sections: Command, Operations, Survey, Medical, Communications, and Logistics/Administration. Its 22 full-time soldiers and airmen bring a wide range of career experience from the civilian sector. Each team member completes over 850 hours of technical training by agencies including National Fire Academy (NFA), Department of Defense, Department of Energy, and EPA. Individuals are all trained to the HazMat Technician response level or above. Teams train collectively on WMD scenarios, and drill with local responders for coordinated response effort. Prior to certification, each team undergoes an external evaluation involving over 40 individual tasks of NBC/R operations that are unique to the CST mission.

Standard Operating Procedures are continually updated, using new WMD response methods aligned to standards set forth by OSHA and NFA. Regular coordination is conducted with state emergency management, fire academies, law enforcement, and health departments—all partners in planning for WMD response.

❑ ***How is CST notified?***

Requests for assistance follow established emergency mutual aid notification, through counties, to the State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC). The National Guard Bureau also has a 24/7 Operation Center that can facilitate requests for assistance with the closest, ready and available team. At first notification of a probable WMD event, the team will assemble for rapid deployment. Authority to deploy the team rests with the Governor, through The Adjutant General. Additionally, Military Support guidelines allow the CST Commander to respond immediately to valid civil requests that involve imminent threat to life and property. The team is on-call 24 hours, 7 days a week.

The CST can be enroute within 3 hours of notification. Primary mode of transportation is 8 modified commercial vehicles, and the unit is also air-transportable. Early recognition and notification of WMD events is essential. Several initiatives--such as the Domestic Preparedness Program and SEMO's model county plans--encourage inclusion of WMD protocols and response assets into local and county emergency plans.

❑ ***Who manages the CST?***

On-scene, the CST provides *tactical support* to the Incident Commander. Team members work for the CST Commander, who is under *operational control* of The Adjutant General. The team will deploy in its normal USC Title 32 status as a state asset, remaining under operational control of the Governor. Deployments to a State not having a CST are facilitated by interstate compacts and arrangements between respective Governors and their Adjutants General and the National Guard Bureau. If federalized under USC Title 10, the CST would work for a federal chain of command, like a Task Force Commander.

❑ ***For Further Information***

Contact you're nearest Civil Support Team or State National Guard Headquarters or call the National Guard Bureau Public Affairs Office at (703) 607-2584